

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) A communications device for transmitting acoustic signals in a motor vehicle, comprising:

at least two transmitter devices configured to transmit acoustic signals;
at least two receiver devices configured to emit acoustic signals;
a control unit configured to activate and deactivate at least the transmitter devices;

wherein at least one transmitter device and at least one receiver device are assigned to a spatial position, the transmitter devices configured to detect signal levels in accordance with the control unit, ~~the control unit configured to activate only a transmitter device having a highest signal level~~, the control unit assigned at least one control element configured to weight signal levels of at least one transmitter device to one of selectively attenuate and selectively amplify the signal level of each transmitter device in accordance with a respective weighting factor based on the weight, the control unit configured to activate only a transmitter device having a highest weighted signal level.

13. (Previously Presented) The communications device according to claim 12, wherein the control element is configured to deactivate at least one receiver element independently of the signal levels.

14. (Previously Presented) The communications device according to claim 12, wherein the transmitter devices include at least one of (a) a microphone and (b) a microphone array.

15. (Previously Presented) The communications device according to claim 12, wherein the receiver devices include a loudspeaker.

16. (Previously Presented) The communications device according to claim 12, wherein the control unit is configured to one of (a) deactivate an assigned receiver device of an active transmitter device and (b) reduce a level of the assigned receiver device of the active transmitter device.

17. (Previously Presented) The communications device according to claim 12, further comprising time-delay elements configured to compensate for differences in propagation time arranged between the transmitter devices and the receiver devices.

18. (Previously Presented) The communications device according to claim 12, further comprising echo compensators arranged between the transmitter devices and the receiver devices.

19. (Previously Presented) The communications device according to claim 12, further comprising attenuation devices arranged between the transmitter devices and the receiver devices.

20. (Previously Presented) The communications device according to claim 12, wherein the control element includes at least one of (a) a non-locking key, (b) a switch, (c) a rotary transducer and (d) a pressure transducer.

21. (Previously Presented) The communications device according to claim 12, further comprising a multifunction operation unit configured to display a position of the transmitter devices and the receiver devices, the control element assigned to the multifunction operation unit.

22. (Currently Amended) A communications device for transmitting acoustic signals in a motor vehicle, comprising:

- at least two transmitting means for transmitting acoustic signals;
- at least two receiving means for emitting acoustic signals;
- controlling means for activating and deactivating at least the transmitting means;

wherein at least one transmitting means and at least one receiving means are assigned to a spatial position, the transmitting means for detecting signal levels in accordance with the controlling means, ~~the controlling means for activating only a transmitting means having a highest signal level~~, the controlling means assigned at least one control element means for weighting signal levels of at least one transmitting means to one of selectively attenuate and selectively amplify the signal level of each transmitting means in accordance with a respective weighting factor based on the weight, the controlling means for activating only a transmitting means having a highest weighted signal level.

23. (Previously Presented) The communications device according to claim 12, further comprising a multifunction operation unit configured to display seating positions corresponding to positions of the transmitter devices and receiver devices, the control element assigned to the multifunction operation unit.

24. (Previously Presented) The communications device according to claim 12, wherein the control unit is also configured to selectively deactivate at least one transmitter device independently of an applied signal level.

25. (Previously Presented) The communications device according to claim 22, wherein the at least one control element means is also for selectively deactivating at least one transmitting means independently of an applied signal level.